



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

615 Chestnut Street
Suite 1250
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476
(215) 861-8200

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Michael L. Levy announced today the filing of a one-count indictment¹ charging James Gautieri with interference with an aircraft or aircraft facilities.

The charge against Gautieri arises out of his involvement in an incident on April 30, 2008 during which Gautieri shined a laser into the cockpit of a Philadelphia Police Department helicopter during routine patrol, striking a pilot in the eyes.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH
JAMES GAUTIERI	Williamsport, PA	1957

Gautieri faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Philadelphia Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Salvatore L. Astolfi.

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
Suite 1250, 615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Contact: PATRICIA HARTMAN
Media contact
215-861-8525**

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¹ An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.